



## Farm Income Down, Costs Up

### Encouraging CCF Support In Grouard

C. R. Clark, C.C.F. candidate in the Grouard by-election, reports that encouraging support of his candidature is being shown at many places in the constituency. Mr. Clark has already covered a considerable portion of the riding and has made many contacts.

William Irvine, provincial director of organization, has been in the Grouard constituency for the past week, organizing polls and arranging meetings to be addressed by the candidate and Elmer E. Roper, provincial leader.

Mr. Roper will address meetings at: Fawcett, June 12th; Slave Lake, 13th; Faust, 14; Ballator (Edge Hill), 15th; Nampa, 16th; Falher, 18th; High Prairie, 19th; McLennan, 20th.

Voting takes place on Thursday, June 21st. There are three candidates in the field representing Social Credit, Liberals and the C.C.F.

The C.C.F. candidate is reminding his audiences that it has been the C.C.F. in the province which pioneered every worth while improvement in social legislation in the province and has led the fight for a larger revenue for the people from their natural resources.



Sharp contrast between prices of children's clothes today and six years ago was strikingly demonstrated at recent "Prices Protest" luncheon, arranged by the C.C.F. Women's Committee in Toronto. Above, three-year-old Jane Brewin is shown wearing all the clothes her mother could buy now, with the same money used to clothe David Archer, in 1945.

### Labor Asks Wage Boost To Meet Living Costs

OTTAWA (CPA)—Storm warnings are flying at C.C.L. headquarters.

Following a Toronto conference of the Wage Policy Committee, the Congress national office in Ottawa released a carefully worded statement reviewing labor's efforts to get price control back, their failure to budge the government, their subsequent decision to drive for "very substantial" wage increases.

Setting forth a clear picture of the reasons for the drive, the C.C.L. statement said:

"While families of wage-earners have been subjected to lower living standards profits have continued unchecked at an increasing rate. Statistics show that profit-taking has been a major factor in the high prices to which the Canadian public is being subjected. While labor struggled unsuccessfully to keep abreast of the cost of living,

### British Doctors Like Health Plan

TORONTO (CPA)—Critics of the British health service, among them both the Canadian and U.S. medical associations, overlook the one essential fact that "the people of Great Britain are today receiving better medical care than the people of any country I know of," Dr. Anne L. Barlow, British doctor now engaged in post-graduate studies at the University of Toronto, told the Rotary Club of Toronto's regular luncheon meeting.

British doctors like the national plan, she said, because it enables them to give dangerously ill patients all the attention they need—including consulting specialists at no extra cost—without the danger the patients will "worry themselves sick" over medical costs.—Toronto Star.

### 10% Drop In Returns To Agriculture

By ROBERT CARLYLE,  
President, Alberta C.C.F.

The recent controversy over wheat payments to Western farmers for the five-year pool period has possibly emphasized the feeling existing in the minds of many Canadians that the farmer is solely responsible for the high cost of living. This is undoubtedly due in part to the propaganda which has been spread by individuals and interests who are continually trying to create disunity between the farmer and worker. Farm organizations, too, have been lax in their public relations, failing to properly publicize their side of the controversy.

While it is true that farm income is much higher than ten years ago, and some individuals are making a very good profit, there has been a decrease in total agricultural return of roughly 10% in the past two years. Operating and living costs, however, have continued to rise at an alarming rate in the meantime. We are told that these high costs are the result of higher pay to workers, but in most cases these increases have not been enough to meet the higher living costs. On the other hand, the gross

(Continued on page 8)

### Reviews Farm Problems



ROBERT CARLYLE  
President of the Alberta C.C.F. In the accompanying article says there is too much spread between the prices the primary producer receives, and that obtained for the finished product.

### Coldwell To Speak On Radio Tuesday

OTTAWA (CPA)—M. J. Coldwell, C.C.F. National Leader, will speak over the Trans-Canada network of the C.B.C. on Tuesday, June 12, in the program, "The Nation's Business". His topic will be Canada's No. 1 headache: The cost of living.

Mr. Coldwell will be heard at 8:15 p.m. over station CBX.

### YOUR HELP NEEDED!

ALTHOUGH there has been a generous response on the part of some to the appeal for funds for the Grouard by-election, a very considerable sum is still required to meet the necessary expenses of the campaign.

Every householder in the constituency has been sent a leaflet introducing the candidate. The printing has been donated but postage amounts to \$80.00. There will be four broadcasts, two on the French station, CHFA, the others on CFCP, Grande Prairie. Two of these broadcasts are being paid for by the C.C.F. members of the legislature.

It is expected that the total cash required for expenses not otherwise provided for, will be at least \$500. Much less than that has come in.

C.C.F. members, locals and constituency associations please make your donations as generous as possible—and quickly!

### Farmers' Day Greetings

From M. J. COLDWELL, C.C.F. National Leader

WESTERN farmers have always been beset with problems peculiar to an agrarian economy. Natural hazards, unpredictable returns for agricultural commodities as a result of fluctuating domestic and world prices, and unstable production costs, have always threatened the security of the farmer. The history of the farmers' struggles for improvement of his lot is largely reflected in his formation of co-operatives as a means to overcome the unnecessary middlemen and the speculators who derive their profits from the futures market at

his expense; and, it is seen in his incessant pressure on governments, both federal and provincial, for legislation to deal with matters that can not be resolved by co-operatives. Much, however, remains to be done at the federal level if the farmer's security is to be adequately guaranteed.

#### C.C.F. Pressure

We of the C.C.F. have continually urged upon the federal government the need for establishing a fair relationship between returns received by primary producers of farm products and other sections

(Continued on Page 6)



### PERSONAL STUFF

BY  
E. E. R.

I said in this column two weeks ago that ninety-five per cent of the farms in Washington, Oregon and California were electrified. I was slightly mistaken. The exact percentages are as (at June 30th, 1951): Washington, 98.4 per cent; Oregon, 99.5 per cent; California, 98.5 per cent. I know these figures sound fantastic to Alberta people, but they are taken from the official statistics of the Rural Electrification Administration. In another column we are printing a table issued by the REA showing the number and percentage of electrified farms in all the States. It will be seen that 86.3 per cent of all farms in the United States had electricity by June 30th, 1950. The story of the Rural Electrification Administration is one of the most thrilling in the history of economic and social development in the whole world. In 1935 less than 11 per cent of the farms of the United States had electricity. Rural electrification as a program of government was established by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in an executive order signed on May 11th, 1935, under authority

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# Agricultural Marketing Legislation

By PERCY E. WRIGHT, M.P., C.C.F. National President

**P**RIMARY producers in Canada are handicapped by lack of adequate marketing legislation. Under the British North America Act, jurisdiction is divided in agricultural matters between the provinces and the Dominion. There are four major Dominion acts today which deal with agriculture. It is interesting to note that each of these acts was passed by Dominion governments just prior to a federal election. In 1936 the Canadian Wheat Board Act was passed by the Bennett government of that date. In 1939 the Liberal government, passed the Agricultural Products Co-operative Marketing Act and the Wheat Co-operative Marketing Act. In 1944 the same government, just prior to the 1945 election, passed the Agricultural Prices Support Act, and in 1949 the Agricultural Products Marketing Act, Bill No. 82.

Under the Canadian Wheat Board Act the most valuable single Canadian farm product is dealt with. Since 1943 the Wheat Board has been the sole marketing agency for wheat produced in the prairie provinces and the cash and future market has been closed. Initial prices fixed by the governor-in-council are paid—in the case of the 1951 crop, \$1.40 per bushel—an interim payment is usually made in the spring of the year and a

final payment when all of the wheat has been disposed of. An amendment to the act, passed at the present session, will permit the Wheat Board, where it deems it advisable, to make a final settlement on individual grades before finally disposing of all of that grade. What remains will be carried over to a future crop year at a price fixed by the board. This will enable a final settlement to be made on any given crop year before the final disposal of that crop.

## Trading in Oats, Barley

In 1948 interprovincial and export trade in oats and barley was placed under the Wheat Board by amendment to the act, but this was not made effective until passage of complementary legislation by the prairie provinces. Trading in oats and barley continues on the Winnipeg Grain Exchange through which the board makes most of its sales. In the marketing of oats and barley most farmers favor the Wheat Board as the sole marketing agency and are opposed to the use of the future markets.

## May Advance Payments

Through the Agricultural Products Co-operative Marketing Act and the Wheat Co-operative Marketing Act passed in 1939, the government may assist in financing initial payments by co-operatives to primary producers on de-

livery of products for sale. Under this legislation groups of producers of any agricultural products may apply to the government for an initial payment equal to 80% of the average prices for like grades and qualities during the previous three years. The procedure is for the government to guarantee the banks against loss in advancing funds to the co-operative. In very few, if any cases, has the government advanced the full 80% permitted under the act. This act has been used by a number of co-operatives for purposes of making an initial payment.

Money could be saved both in this case and in the case of financing initial payments under the Wheat Board Act by the government undertaking direct financing through the Bank of Canada rather than continuing to employ private banking agencies.

The idea behind the legislation is sound. Under the act, farmers benefit by receiving a substantial portion of the payment for their products as soon as they are delivered without necessarily accepting the current price and without depressing the price unduly by heavy deliveries at harvest time. Any criticism of the legislation is that it has been used by organizations which are not bona fide co-operatives but which have been formed as nominal co-operatives for the sole purpose of obtaining benefits under the legislation.

## Prices Support Act

The Agricultural Prices Support Act passed in 1944, just prior to the 1945 election, first became operative in 1946. Preamble to the act stated that the object of the act was "to endeavor to insure adequate and stable returns for agricultural products by promoting orderly adjustments from war to peace conditions and to endeavor to secure a fair relationship between the returns from agriculture and those from other occupations." The act was renewed from year to year until 1950 when it was made a permanent piece of legislation. It is designed to cover agricultural products other than grain, and under it a \$200,000,000 fund for price support has been provided.

The government could, under this legislation, spend up to this amount every year, although in fact they have only spent a few million dollars to date.

When this act was introduced and when it was made permanent in 1950, the C.C.F. urged that there be placed in it a formula for securing a fair relationship between returns for agriculture and those from other occupations. Farm organizations have asked for a cost of production formula to be written into the act that when their prices drop below this cost of production, payments could be made under the act to insure them against loss.

## Discourage Production

The board administering the act receives applications from producers and after considering a number of factors, may or may not recommend support. There has never been one price established under the act to date that has been considered by the farmers to be equal to their cost of production. The main principle used by the board in establishing prices to date apparently has been to establish a floor price which would discourage

production.

## Marketing Act

The last piece of federal legislation dealing with marketing of agricultural products was the Agricultural Products Marketing Act of 1949. Under this act the government takes no direct part in marketing. There is no provision for any central selling agency nor any direct provision for interprovincial action. Provision is made in the act to give to Provincial Marketing Boards the same powers that they exercise provincially in their marketing of their products, in the interprovincial and export trade.

When the bill was before the House, the C.C.F. moved an amendment to provide for a central selling agency, where two or more of the provincial boards could co-operate in marketing their products. The government did not accept this amendment, but suggested that there was no reason why they should not co-operate in setting up national agencies to regulate marketing outside their own province. In this manner they hope to get around the constitution, but there is still the uncertainty that if producers go through all the steps of obtaining proper provincial legislation, organizing marketing schemes under it and then co-operate interprovincially to set up a national scheme, the Supreme Court may rule the whole thing ultra vires and government and producers will then have to start all over again.

## No Interprovincial Scheme

So far all provinces with the exception of Quebec and Newfoundland have passed enabling legislation, but no interprovincial scheme has been worked out for any product. Honey producers in Saskatchewan have now a provincial board and are working towards an interprovincial scheme with producers in Ontario, Alberta and Manitoba.

I am convinced that it is only through such schemes where all of any particular agricultural



PERCY E. WRIGHT  
C.C.F. Member for Melfort.

product can be marketed through the one agency that an unco-operative minority can be prevented from destroying the work of the co-operative majority.

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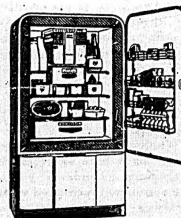
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### THE WIT AND THE WISDOM?

Sunday morning's capital report included a commentary by Ann Francis, a popular Ottawa correspondent. Her comment was on the Massey Royal Commission report recently submitted to the House of Commons on the cultural state of



Canada. It was an intelligent analysis of the submission emphasizing deficiency of cultural activities, attitudes and means that many European countries less favored than Canada have enjoyed for generations. Some of the things exposed by the commission report should make Canadians blush and spur us to "pull up our cultural socks". Anyway, you probably heard the commentary. What struck me was the concluding remark by Ann Francis: Have we the wit and wisdom to turn this shadow into a substance? The phrase buried itself in my mind because it seems to me we should ask that question about ever so many problems confronting us in Canada: Have we the wit and wisdom?

Cultural deficiency is not the only or the most pressing problem facing thousands of Canadian farmers, workers and professional people. There is the problem of inflation and the rising cost of living; there is the tragic problem of housing. These problems dominate the debates in the House of Commons, in the press and on the radio, in the homes, in smoking cars and at the lodge meetings, because they are like sores on our body that make us uncomfortable. We have no Royal Commission reports on the high cost of living or on housing, but various civil bodies have gathered information on them. Labor unions and farmers' organizations and social welfare associations bristle with facts and figures from which deductions can be made and individual or collective action may be planned. As Ann Francis put it: Have we the wit and the wisdom to do something about it?

For instance, the Regina C.C.F. Commonwealth, in the last issue features an article based on a report by Beland Honderich, financial editor of the Toronto Star. Here is what he reports: In 1946 one hundred and twenty-six representative Canadian companies reported net profits of over 254 million dollars, while last year the same corporations showed profits of twice that amount. An average over-all increase of 102%.

In contrast, farmers' incomes have dropped in the same period 145 million dollars since 1949 and 188 million dollars since 1948. Organized labor has succeeded in boosting its pay rate 52%. But profits have soared 102%. There is the story. Even as the story on the cultural state of Canada which took a couple of years to compile.

It reveals a shocking disproportion in the way Canadians share in their national income. It is obvious that some Canadians have their feet in the trough and are unwilling themselves while others go

## Farm Electricity In U.S.

THE table below, taken from the report of the Administrator of the Rural Electrification Administration, United States Department of Agriculture, shows the number and percentage of farms receiving central-station electric service as of June 30, 1950.

State	Number of farms	Number of farms electrified	Percent of farms electrified	Number of farms electrified	Percent of farms electrified
Total	5,859,169	5,053,676	86.3	805,493	13.7
Alabama	223,369	197,708	88.5	25,661	11.5
Arizona	13,142	11,839	90.1	1,303	9.9
Arkansas	198,769	164,280	82.6	34,489	17.4
California	138,917	136,804	98.5	2,113	1.5
Colorado	47,618	45,570	95.5	2,048	4.5
Connecticut	22,241	22,216	99.9	25	.1
Delaware	9,296	9,922	96.0	374	4.0
Florida	61,159	50,886	83.2	10,273	16.8
Georgia	225,897	216,195	95.7	9,702	4.3
Idaho	41,498	41,051	98.9	447	1.1
Illinois	204,239	198,520	97.2	5,719	2.8
Indiana	176,970	174,034	98.3	2,936	1.6
Iowa	208,934	199,632	95.5	9,302	4.5
Kansas	141,192	104,724	74.2	36,468	25.8
Kentucky	238,501	186,065	78.0	52,436	22.0
Louisiana	129,295	109,822	84.9	19,473	15.1
Maine	42,184	33,103	78.5	9,081	21.5
Maryland	41,315	40,169	97.2	1,146	2.8
Massachusetts	37,007	36,155	97.7	852	2.3
Michigan	175,268	173,743	99.1	1,525	.9
Minnesota	188,952	165,873	87.8	23,079	12.2
Mississippi	263,528	162,039	61.5	111,489	42.3
Missouri	242,934	185,431	76.3	57,503	23.7
Montana	37,747	37,073	98.2	674	1.8
Nebraska	111,756	81,639	73.1	30,117	26.9
Nevada	3,429	2,305	67.2	1,124	32.8
New Hampshire	18,786	18,152	96.6	634	3.4
New Jersey	26,226	26,079	99.4	147	.6
New Mexico	29,695	19,435	65.4	10,260	34.6
New York	149,490	143,135	95.7	6,355	4.3
North Carolina	287,412	254,568	88.6	32,844	11.4
North Dakota	69,520	38,628	55.6	30,892	44.4
Ohio	220,575	219,742	99.6	833	.4
Oklahoma	164,790	111,482	67.7	53,308	32.3
Oregon	63,125	62,809	99.5	316	.5
Pennsylvania	171,761	162,549	94.6	9,212	5.4
Rhode Island	5,603	5,599	99.9	4	.1
South Carolina	147,745	127,654	86.3	20,181	13.7
South Dakota	68,705	41,264	60.1	27,441	39.9
Tennessee	234,431	193,017	82.3	41,414	17.7
Texas	384,977	334,606	86.9	50,371	13.1
Utah	26,322	21,485	81.6	4,837	18.4
Vermont	26,490	22,824	86.2	3,666	13.8
Virginia	173,051	157,476	91.0	15,575	9.0
Washington	79,887	78,593	98.4	1,294	1.6
West Virginia	97,600	77,075	79.0	20,525	21.0
Wisconsin	177,745	165,815	93.3	11,930	6.7
Wyoming	13,076	10,176	77.8	2,900	22.2

### CCF Coffee Stall At Market Saturday

Edmonton Women's C.C.F. Club will hold a sale of pie and coffee in the Market Stall on Saturday, June 9th. Donations of pie will be gladly accepted.

without their fair share, which is responsible for most of our social ills, such as lack of housing, delinquency, undernourishment and moral breakdown of democratic concepts and faith in "our way of life".

The question is: Have we the wit and the wisdom to do something about it? And the energy? Or the will?

We have the set-up and the means to correct these ills if we will make use of it intelligently. Eighteen years ago a people's movement was formed in Calgary, which has become a major political force in the Canadian democratic set-up. Of course, I mean the C.C.F. Its representatives in the House of Commons, in provincial legislatures and in the various organizations representing farmers and workers, have exerted pressure and have gained concessions from those who have their feet in the trough. They have had to move over a little. But their feet are still in the trough. One hundred and two per cent gain in profits! By active support of the C.C.F. the farmers and workers of Canada can make them take their feet out and let everybody have a share of the good things so abundant in Canada. Have you got the wit and the wisdom to become an active supporter and champion of the social security and fair shares for all program of the C.C.F.?

### Strong Support For Free Trade Unions

OTTAWA.—Canada's two major labor Congresses, The Trades and Labor Congress of Canada and the Canadian Congress of Labor, June 1st joined in a statement of aims and objectives of Canadian labor in international affairs. The joint statement took a position of strong support for the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions in its world-wide fight against Stalin and Communism.

The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, to which both Congresses are affiliated, is holding its Second World Congress in Milan, Italy, beginning July 4th. The joint statement made it clear that the threat to peace and the possibility of catastrophic global war cannot be overcome unless trade unions play an even greater part in enlisting the forces for freedom in a great crusade for human betterment. The statement also made it clear that the contribution to this struggle by trade unionism in Canada, however, is limited by the lack of understanding of its aims and objectives in the councils of government.

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### Want Meat Packing A National Industry

OTTAWA (CPA).—The C.C.F. is trying again to get meat packing recognized as a national industry under the Labor Code. Bill 333, given first reading on May 22 in Parliament, was introduced by Alister Stewart (Winnipeg North).

If the Packinghouse union gets its way, it will be in the happy position of dealing with three master negotiators — Swifts, Burns, Canada Packers — for industry-wide contracts.

REGINA.—Saskatchewan Wool Products, provincial government crown corporation, has been awarded a contract for 14,400 general service blankets, valued at approximately \$180,000, Hon W. S. Lloyd, chairman of the board of directors, has announced.

The order, which comes from the federal Department of Defence Production, is one of the largest contracts for delivery outside the province ever held by the corporation, Mr. Lloyd said.

## LOYALTY TO IDEALS

The farm co-operative movement is a combination of idealism and practical business.

The practical part provides for the association of people with a common economic interest for a definite purpose, namely to use their own money and their patronage to build and conduct businesses for their own benefit and protection.

The idealistic factor envisages loyalty to a cause which is right and which is beneficial to the people concerned and also to the nation.

Loyalty is the cement of friendship. Life is worthwhile so long as a man is true to himself, loyal to his better instincts, and obedient to his conscience.

Loyalty makes community and national life possible. Loyalty of citizens to their country and to each other, is a protecting force greater even than the power of armies and weapons.

Loyalty in a man is like the strength of steel in a tall building, like the added power of steel rods in reinforced concrete.

Loyalty is the inspiration of accomplishment. Trust is based on loyalty.

There are little men and big men in a great crowd, but where there is loyalty, there are no discouraged men.

Standards of loyalty vary as men's individual status varies. But each man who is true to his own self is loyal.

True loyalty is loyalty to your own ideals.

"To thine own self be true"

And it must follow as the night the day

Thou canst not then be false to any man."

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## THEY WON'T FAIL

WE are sure that a large number of C.C.F. people, individuals as well as locals and constituency groups, will want to join in co-operative support of the C.C.F. candidate in the Grouard by-election. Mr. Clark himself is making some sacrifice in taking the time necessary to wage his campaign. Many others are making valuable contributions of time and money. We believe many others will wish to do so.

It was pointed out in our last issue that although the C.C.F. has always received one of its highest votes in the Grouard constituency, the organization in the riding is small and without funds. But the Grouard C.C.F.'ers were encouraged to enter the by-election contest for the benefit of the whole movement in the province and to give C.C.F. voters in the constituency a chance to vote for a C.C.F. candidate.

The decision to participate in the by-election was taken because all concerned had faith in the support which was expected from C.C.F. people throughout the province. The *People's Weekly* believes this faith was justified and that many will rally to supply the funds required for the campaign.

## THE ONLY REMEDY

IT is not pleasant to read of the anger of the labor organizations in Canada about the failure of the federal government to stop the upward surge of prices. But their indignation is entirely justified.

When the trade unions enter into an agreement with employers they must observe their contract for a definite period. The profiteers are not so restricted. They can raise prices whenever they think they can get more.

How this works for the workers is illustrated by the experience of the miners in Alberta. At the beginning of this year they received an increase in wages just sufficient to take care of the increased cost of living since the previous contract was entered into. But no sooner had they obtained the increase than prices soared again, with the result that their real wage is now considerably lower than it was before they obtained the last increase!

Admittedly, another raise in wages will bring another increase in prices. The workers are in a dog-chasing-his-tail race that they can't win. They're mad about it, and no wonder.

There is only one remedy and that is price control. Under control in five years prices increased 5 per cent. In five years without controls they went up 50 per cent.

## FOR THE RICH ONLY

ALMOST every Canadian university is raising its tuition fees this year, despite the fact that they fear such action may further reduce the rapidly declining registration figures. The universities have no choice—unless they can wring a new educational policy from the Liberal government at Ottawa.

Principal F. Cyril James of McGill University said recently: "A young Canadian from a family in modest circumstances has less chance of getting a university education today than the youth of any other country with which I am familiar."

In Canada, only eight per cent of the student body at 16 leading universities are assisted by scholarships. Included in this number (for the year 1949-50) are a certain number still drawing DVA grants as part of their veterans' benefits. Back in 1947-48 university budgets were propped up to the extent of 57.3 per cent of total expenditure by student fees and DVA grants. Now this source has almost dried up.

In contrast to Canada's eight per cent, Britain's universities are almost filled with students on scholarships of one form or another. At Oxford and Cambridge the figure is as high as 82.1 per cent. In 1948-49 the percentage in three major universities, the provincial universities and five university colleges was 74 per cent.

In their submission to the Massey Commission on Canadian Culture, the universities took a grave view of the future unless the government comes to the rescue. They are asking for direct grants to the university based on enrolment; plus a system of federal scholarships and fellowships in all fields of higher education, based on the financial need of the student and his ability to carry out the work.

In Canada a higher education is rapidly becoming an exclusive privilege of the well-to-do.

## THE THIRD COLUMN

### OTHERS REAP THE HARVEST

Senator Guy Gillette in the February Ohio Farm Bureau News

"We have found, in our months of investigation, one striking fact to be true: On the average, the farmer—without whom there would be no food to process, distribute or sell—is receiving less than half of the consumer's food dollar.

"More than 50% of the dollars paid out by the consumer at the grocery counter goes to the various middlemen who stand between the farmer and the consumer for processing, packaging, handling, transporting, wholesaling and retailing."

### IN OUR OWN BACKYARD. BUT—

Camrose Canadian, May 23:

"It's nice to see Alberta oil in Ontario, but the question of the comparative price of gasoline between Ontario and Alberta leaves us Albertans wondering whether there is any benefit to be derived from oil production in our own back yard. Two to three cents a gallon hardly puts Alberta in a favorable position. We don't think that Alberta consumers are getting a good enough deal out of Alberta oil, when compared with the big break being given the Ontario motorist after the oil has been transported some two thousand miles."

### HOSPITALS LIKE IT TOO

By Gordon McCallum, Vancouver Newspaperman:

"Dr. Baird (Superintendent, Regina General Hospital), hired by Regina City, is quite frankly anti-C.C.F. but he's very much pro-hospital scheme.

"There's no denying that the Saskatchewan hospital plan has benefitted both the patients and the hospitals. It protects the patients against big bills, and it allows the hospitals to collect their operating costs. The hospitals can now turn their attention from the constant worry of collecting their bills to give more services, pay more attention to how the hospital is run."

"Dr. Baird, born in New Brunswick, learned hospital administration in the army and joined Regina General six months before Saskatchewan's compulsory hospitalization started Jan. 1, 1947.

"He found that prior to the start of the scheme, Regina City, squeezing by as best it could, had to dig down from \$25,000 to \$100,000 a year to pay hospital deficits, even with grants from the provincial government. It was so difficult that only about 20 per cent fire insurance coverage was carried. There was no bookkeeping to take care of depreciation.

"Now, by provincial law, insurance coverage is more than 80 per cent, there's an allowance in the books for depreciation, and the City of Regina is freed from the yearly deficits . . .

"Since the start of the hospital scheme, every Saskatchewan hospital keeps the same accounting and bookkeeping methods. Before there were almost as many systems as hospitals. As a result, the hospitalization officials now can measure one hospital against another, learn where one is out of line too far in particular costs."

# Timely Topics

By William Irvine

Director of C.C.F. Organization

### COURTESY IN LIEU OF JUSTICE

Western farmers apparently do not propose to accept with docility, the government's 8.5 cents a bushel as settlement in full for their wheat. They are demanding 25 cents a bushel for



Joint delegations of farmers from the prairie provinces will journey to Ottawa to reiterate the farmers' claim and urge a settlement thereof. Mr. Henry Young and Mr. A. R. Hadland will represent the F.U.A.

We wish them every success in their mission but have difficulty in restraining our doubts about the results. Farmers have long been in the habit of sending delegations to Ottawa at their own expense, but after many years of that they have little to show for their efforts. Their delegations have nearly always been men who were permitted only to knock on the door but never to enter the chamber of power. The proper place for a farmers' delegation is on the floor of Parliament. Farmers should learn to exercise their own political power directly. They will find that much more effective than to go cap in hand pleading with those to whom they have yielded their political power.

Mr. Roy C. Marler, who went to Ottawa as president of the Western Agricultural Conference, to ask for \$75 million dollars due to farmers whose wheat furnished cheap bread for Canadians during the war, returns with nothing. But he told how he and his associates had been received in a courteous and friendly manner. But it wasn't just courtesy which Mr. Marler was seeking. He did not get one cent of the \$75 million he went after. It takes a lot of courtesy to buy farm machinery these days.

### IT CRUMPLED

An editorial in the Wheat Pool Budget entitled, "The Fragile Market" should be read by every farmer. The Canadian Wheat Board sold

two million bushels of barley to the Grain Exchange and delivered it last May. The effect was to depress the market. Whereupon a Chicago grain company took its pen in hand and wrote as follows:—"The outstanding development of the week was the very heavy tenders made against the May barley contracts in the Winnipeg markets. Where the Canadian Wheat Board . . . delivered over 2,000,000 bushels on contract and thoroughly succeeded in delivering an almost mortal blow against the price level. Once again the Canadian Wheat Board has managed to thwart the best interests of the prairie farmers."

The Pool Budget editorial very properly answers this stupid charge as follows:

"If the delivery of a couple of million bushels of grain on the speculative market can have such a deleterious effect on the price level, Canadian farmers must realize what a fragile pricing mechanism the speculative grain marketing system provides. They can well realize what would happen during the autumn run of marketings when a couple of hundred million bushels of grain are being delivered in a few weeks' time. If 2,000,000 bushels of deliveries can upset the market, what would happen if 200,000,000 bushels were delivered."

Yes, farmers do not have to imagine what would happen in that case, they know what has happened over all the years. And they should also realize to what extent a private grain company will go to discredit any co-operative marketing scheme.

The Grain Exchange is evidently a market which if used ceases to be a market. Of what use to farmers is such an instrument? A mechanism which crumples up as the Winnipeg grain market did with two million bushels of barley is absolutely useless to Canadian farmers.

### TREND TOWARD THE LEFT

News from the British Labor Party is encouraging despite the dire prophecies made by its opponents during the budget debate when Mr. Bevan and Mr. Wilson resigned. Herbert Roberts, writing in the Edmonton Journal, tells of how the party is neither "split nor disintegrating." On the contrary, he says, it has grown in strength and unity ever since the resignation. (Continued on page 5)

### Electrify Farms

## Britain Doubles Power Supplies

By KENNETH RATHBONE MANCHESTER, Eng.—Output of Britain's nationalized electricity supply industry during its second year of nationalization tallied 49,000 million units—double that of pre-war, and an increase of 17½ per cent since nationalization.

The second annual report of the British Electricity Authority shows a surplus of about \$21 million after all charges, including about \$50 million compensation to former owners, had been paid. Its first year surplus was about \$13 million.

This tremendous increase in

output is not yet sufficient to meet the growing demands of industry and increased domestic demands, because the arrears of maintenance, of the building of new plants during the war have not yet been made good.

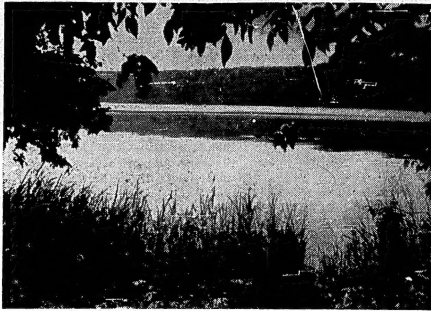
The average selling price per unit is only 1.4 per cent higher than 1938-39, a very trivial increase when compared with the way in which prices of other commodities have risen.

Rural electrification is being pushed and nearly 100,000 farms are now concerned.

The B.E.A. owns 293 electricity generating stations with a capacity of 13½ million kilowatts, employs 170,500 workers, and consumed last year 29½ million tons of coal in addition to coke and oil.



## Saskatchewan C.C.Y.M. Camp Site



This is Round Lake, where the Saskatchewan C.C.Y.M. built Camp Douglas, their first summer camp. The Alberta C.C.Y.M. is following Saskatchewan's lead and is busy now with building plans for its own summer camp at Mulhurst, Pigeon Lake.

## Timely Topics

(Continued from Page 4)

tion of the ministers.

Bevan, it is claimed by Roberts, has won great success. "The Scottish Labor Party has warned to a left-wing revival; all of South Wales has gone with their native son to a man; several big unions have plumped for limited rather than full-scale rearmament. In other words, the British Labor Party, like any other which has survival value, is busy at self-analysis and self-criticism. That is taking place in nightly debates up and down the nation in back-street Labor Party halls, and in the pages of trade union publications." Social and economic facts are being "faced, challenged and assessed."

The Labor Party of Britain has learned in time that it is better to alter course a degree before the ship strikes the reef. The course is being altered and it will be so for Britain's future that it is so.

## CCF-CCYM Camp Site Property Purchased

Last Monday, May 28th, the agreement for the purchase of property for a camp site at Pigeon Lake was completed. The price of the property is \$250. \$100 has been paid down and the remainder will be paid before May, 1953.

Mention must be given to the generosity and consideration of Mr. Joe Dowler, of Mulhurst, a well-known C.C.F. supporter of long-standing, owner of the property that was acquired. Mr. Dowler sold his land to the C.C.Y.M. at a price substantially below the value of surrounding property and to him go hearty thanks.

OTTAWA (CPA)—An Ottawa child welfare official has publicly stated that child delinquency today is largely attributable to the high cost of living and to bad housing conditions.

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(Sign this and return to the above address)

## CCF-CCYM Camp Fund

Previously acknowledged	\$238.50
Ray and Mary Bell, Carstairs	25.00
Edmonton C.C.F. Women's Committee	50.00
Sig Lefsrud, Viking	20.00
Isabel and Sadie MacMillan, Edmonton	10.00
Ott. E. Wobick, Barons	25.00
Red Deer C.C.Y.M. Camp Pioneers—Merla Pyle (Penhold), Ray Schmidt (Blackfalds), Shirley Pyle, Bob Lees, Nancy Durajuk, Joe Eddleston, Helen Wold—collected and/or donated as follows:	
A. Allen, Red Deer	\$1.00
C. R. Braithwaite, Red Deer	1.00
R. Carlyle, Blackfalds	5.00
Mrs. Comfort, Red Deer	5.00
D. C. Dandell, Red Deer	1.00
J. Domoney, Red Deer	2.00
Mr. Hunt, Red Deer	.50
Bob Lees, Red Deer	1.00
A. C. Pyle, Penhold	5.00
B. Reinburg, Red Deer	1.00
Mr. Schmidt, Blackfalds	3.50
Ray Schmidt, Blackfalds	5.00
W. H. Schmidt, Red Deer	1.00
Mr. Swanson, R.R. 1, Red Deer	3.10
R. Wells, Red Deer	1.00
<b>Calgary C.C.Y.M. Camp Pioneers—Kay Halliday, Bea Richardson, Ron Stirling, Dorothy Powe, Jack Collette—collected and/or donated as follows:</b>	<b>36.10</b>
R. T. Alderman	\$1.00
A. Member	1.00
H. G. Beacom	2.00
C. Cowan	1.00
M. Dobson	1.00
A. Hibbard	1.00
John Laurie	5.00
A. Member	5.00
3. Hibb Patterson	1.00
Dorothy Powe	5.00
Grace Robinson	1.00
Norman Smith	1.00
Ron Stirling	5.00
	<b>32.00</b>
	<b>\$481.60</b>

The committee is very grateful indeed for the generous response to the Camp Fund appeal. We have now passed the half-way mark of our minimum objective of \$750. On the strength of this, the C.C.Y.M. has made a down payment on the site for the camp at Mulhurst, Pigeon Lake. It has

## CCF Rally, Picnic At Mulhurst, July 1

Pencil a big red ring around July 1st on your calendar. For on that date, beginning at 2 p.m., a C.C.F.-C.C.Y.M. rally and picnic will be held at the C.C.F.-C.C.Y.M. camp site at Mulhurst on Pigeon Lake. Spend your Sunday at the lake, bring your picnic lunch, look over the camp site, renew old acquaintances and join in the inspiration of a rally as the camp is named and dedicated.

Arrangements for speakers are not yet complete. Reserve July 1st and watch the People's Weekly for further details.

## Name The Camp!

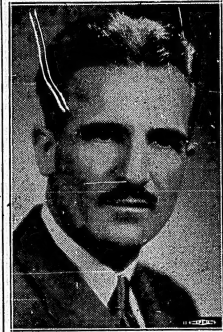
We can't launch the C.C.F.-C.C.Y.M. summer camp into the world without a name. It's up to you to put on your thinking caps and send in your brain-waves to C.C.Y.M., Woodworth House, Edmonton.

Suggestions: Think of the purpose of the camp, think of the friendly surroundings or the inspirational atmosphere of the camp, think of the name of the founders and pioneers in the C.C.F. Let your mind roam at will but whatever you do, send in that name!

been decided that the work part of the first camp, which is taking place from June 30 to July 2, will be the building of the kitchen as the first permanent structure of the camp. Can anything be more important! In that fashion our first needs in future camps will be assured and we shall have a building which we can lock up and store within cooking utensils, tools, lumber and hardware, and other things as collected.

We do hope to avoid going into debt. If this is to be achieved, and if we are to be able to purchase materials for the kitchen building this month, it will be necessary for the remainder of funds to come in almost immediately. It would be greatly appreciated, therefore, if those who are planning to share in the financing of this major project of the C.C.F. and C.C.Y.M. would mail their cheques or money orders to A. J. E. Liesemer, 304 Denshield Apartments, Calgary, at the earliest possible date. We should like to report in the next issue that the funds for the first year's undertaking are complete, that there is no debt, and that the appeal for this year has been concluded.

## C.C.F. Candidate



CHARLIE BIESICK

C.C.F. candidate in the federal by-election in Winnipeg South Centre on June 25. He has been editor of the Manitoba Commonwealth for the past five years and is a former provincial secretary of the Manitoba C.C.F. He served overseas in World War II. The by-election was made necessary by the resignation of Ralph Maybank.

## By-Election Fund For Grouard

- \$25.00—Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Eng.  
 \$10.00—Jack Hampson, Sadie and Isobel MacMillan, Calixte Gour.  
 \$ 5.00—W. W. McLennan, Farm Friend, H. E. Bronson, L. P. Schooling, Lily Whaley.  
 \$ 4.00—Mary Crawford.  
 \$ 3.00—Mr. and Mrs. John A. Heap.  
 \$ 2.00—David Maxwell.  
 \$ 2.50—P. Wm. Kobitzsch.  
 \$ 1.00—P. J. Shaw, W. C. Wile, G. J. White, Wm. S. White.

## Edmonton CCF To Attend Picnic July 1

Meetings of the Edmonton C.C.F. will be suspended for the months of June, July and August. In lieu of the June meeting, members are invited to attend the Alberta C.C.F.-C.C.Y.M. basket picnic at Mulhurst, Pigeon Lake on July 1st, where a summer camp is being erected on newly acquired property. Members will be notified later regarding transportation facilities to the lake. In the meantime those desiring to attend the picnic are asked to phone Mrs. H. Scott at 38138.

## CCF Women To Hear Mrs. Marlist Monday

Edmonton Women's C.C.F. meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. J. W. Adair, 11027 - 88 Ave., on Monday, May 11th, at 8 p.m.

Guest speaker will be Mrs. B. Marlist, chairman of Alberta Standards Committee of Canadian Association of Consumers. Her topic will be "Suggestions on Intelligent Buying."

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## Farmers' Day

(Continued from page 1)

of the economy—that is for parity prices. It was with this in mind that we pressed the government during the past year to give fuller effect to farm legislation now on the statute books. For example, we have never hesitated to point out that the government has not taken full advantage of the powers conferred by Parliament in the Agricultural Products Co-operative Marketing Act of 1949, which permits it to assist in the financing of initial payments by co-operatives to primary producers. This Act empowers the government to grant, on request from the producers, an initial payment equal to 80 per cent of the average prices of the commodity during the previous three years. To date, however, none of the producers have been able to procure anything like this guarantee.

## Won't Use Legislation

Likewise, we have urged the federal government to assist producers of farm commodities other than wheat under the Agricultural Prices Support Act. This Act specifically provides for an annual fund of \$200 million to subsidize farm prices. Again, the government has failed to take the opportunity provided by Parliament to aid the farmers, having to date utilized only a negligible portion of this fund.

It has long been the policy of the C.C.F. to advocate a cost of production formula, which would in effect guarantee the farmer parity prices. In the event that prices did become depressed, while production costs did not decrease accordingly, the farmer would be compensated by the federal government so that his returns were on a fair relationship with his costs. Unfortunately, the Agricultural Prices Support Act has not been administered with the aim of accomplishing this objective.

Because returns to the primary producer are often arranged by long-term contract (for example, the wheat agreements with Great Britain), which do not permit necessary readjustments to meet inflationary

CCYM Summer Camp  
June 30 - July 2

The Alberta C.C.Y.M. is holding its first summer camp beginning the morning of June 30 and ending the evening of July 2.

This will be a work and play camp for young people from 13 to 30 and up—boys and girls. You will want to have the fun of helping to build the camp with your own hands. There will be brush to clear, the kitchen to build under the supervision of competent carpenters, camp duties and cooking. It is expected that this kitchen or cook-house can be completely built and painted in the three days of the camp. This will be the first step in the building of the C.C.F.-C.C.Y.M. camp.

## Time For Play

But don't think it will be all work! With many willing hands, it is expected that there will be plenty of time for that splendid fellowship around a campfire, that swift race along the beach into the rippling waters.

Please note: There will be no charge this year. Accordingly, campers are asked to bring their own food, tents, bedding, cooking equipment, etc. There will be cooking facilities available, and it is suggested that campers bring their gang and pool their resources.

And the place? The new C.C.F.-C.C.Y.M. campsite at Mulhurst, on Pigeon Lake. There'll be things a-brewing, and you won't want to miss this first year!

trends, the C.C.F. has persistently called upon the federal government to make up the difference between contract prices and actual prices.

For example, we criticized the government last March for its inadequate payment of the \$65 million to the wheat farmer. In addition to the fact that this sum was insufficient to meet the farmer's cost of production during the post-war years of 1946 to 1950, we pointed out that it also overlooked the fact that the wheat grower had subsidized the Canadian consumer to the extent of \$48 million during the war years.

## Gov't Responsibility

Since the International Wheat Agreement was made the government has allowed Canadian costs of

production and of living to increase sharply. It becomes the obligation of the government, therefore, to make an upward adjustment to achieve a parity price for wheat sold under the International Agreement. This is the responsibility of the Canadian government, which has failed to stop inflation, not that of our overseas customers, although an attempt might be made to revise the prices agreed upon under the international arrangement.

The C.C.F. will continue to urge policies consistent with the stabilizing of both prices and costs of production, so that the farmer will be able to plan his production intelligently and without the fear that his work will be inequitably rewarded.

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## Labor Asks

(Continued from page 1)

profits have gone up 102% since 1946.

"An additional burden is being imposed through higher taxes. The workers of Canada expect to bear their share of increased defence expenditures, but the burden now appears to be borne almost entirely by wage and salary earners. Workers resent the fact that these expenditures have been placed almost completely under the control of employers and their agents through their appointment to government positions."

### Only One Course Left

"There is, therefore, only one course left if our unions are to protect the interests of their membership—that course is an immediate and insistent demand for very substantial wage increases. In adopting this policy, the Canadian Congress of Labor feels it is acting for the Canadian people as a whole. The strength of the labor movement has now reached a point where wage standards are unquestionably determined by organized labor. It is to be expected, therefore, that white collar and other groups of unorganized workers will also benefit from new wage demands by organized workers."

"The increases to be sought by C.C.L. unions will have to be very substantial in the face of existing conditions under which prices are increasing every month while workers are generally bound under a contract of at least twelve months duration."

"Canadian Congress of Labor unions would prefer effective price control with a roll-back of prices to a fair level, rather than pressing for wage increases. Such an approach would be far more equitable, not only for wage-earners, but even more so for pensioners and others who must live on fixed incomes. But the Dominion government has made it clear that there is no basis for anticipating such controls in the near future."

"The Wage Policy Committee, established by the authority of the Executive Council of the Canadian Congress of Labor, is recommending to all its affiliated and chartered unions that they immediately avail themselves of every legiti-

## Score Let-Down In Post Office Service

OTTAWA (CPA).—The recent let-down in post office service came in for criticism in the Commons, when J. W. Noseworthy (C.C.F., South York) expressed the annoyance of most Canadians with deterioration in the service due to the government's lame effort at "economy" in this department.

"I am sure all honorable members are receiving complaints," said Mr. Noseworthy. "The post office is not rendering the kind of service for which it had gained a reputation during past years." Mr. Noseworthy cited cases where "daily" mail has not turned up for two or three days, and where mail delivery was delayed till after six in the evening. Moreover, mailmen are still having to work as much as twelve hours a day under the new schedules, though their official working day is eight hours.

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mate means within their power to seek very substantial wage increases, supplemented by emphasis on wiping out low wage areas and removing wage inequalities."

## With Farmers

# Organization Must Come First

By HENRY G. YOUNG, President, Farmers' Union of Alberta

IT is a pleasure to me to write a message for your Farmers' Day issue of the People's Weekly, and to bring greetings to your readers from the Farmers' Union of Alberta. I am sure we appreciate your idea of putting out a special issue for our Day.

We in the F.U.A. have for years been trying to get Farmers' Day established as a recognized statutory holiday in Alberta. We feel that agriculture is entitled to a day of its own, and the second week in June, when normally seeding is completed, is a fitting time for it. This year the Provincial Government has made the 8th of June a school holiday in Alberta. We appreciate their action, but will press for a full statutory holiday, so that in future years, people in other occupations may join with us in celebrating Farmers' Day. To this end we invite the co-operation of your readers both urban and rural. While this year, the scope of the celebrations may be somewhat limited, owing to the extreme lateness of the season and the fact that the proclamation naming June 8th as a school holiday was only recently made, no doubt full advantage will be taken another year.

### Purpose of F.U.A.

The purpose of the F.U.A. is, of course, to advance and protect the interests of the farmers of Alberta. That does not mean that we ignore the rights or needs of other classes or groups. We recognize that all who make a necessary contribution to society are entitled to



HENRY G. YOUNG

their just share of the national wealth. What we object to is that in many cases far too large a share is taken by those who contribute little.

Today much is heard of the high cost of living and many people buying foods at the store assume that the farmer is responsible for the whole increase. The truth is that the cost of manufacturing and distribution is the big item in the cost of food.

As proof of this, the United States Department of Agriculture points out that on the basis of last December's prices, "If the farmer gave away the wheat in a 16c loaf of bread, it would still cost the consumer 43.4c. If the farmer gave away the beans in a 16c can of pork and beans, the can would still cost 14c at the store."

### Someone Else Benefits

In 1939 the margin for handling

one pound of beef was 7.7c. In 1949 this had increased to 17.5c per pound. It may be said by some that increased labor costs were responsible for much of this increase. However, during the same period the profits of Canada Packers increased by 150 per cent. Evidently someone besides farmer and labor are benefiting.

### Unite Agriculture

As a farmers' organization, we are interested in seeing that the primary producer gets his share of the national income. It is well to remind your readers that even today it is estimated that Canadian agriculture is only getting about 12 per cent of Canada's national income. We have still many thousands of "subsistence farmers". Adjustments of various kinds are in order and it is our purpose to work to that end in a proper and orderly manner. We seek first of all to unite agriculture, as only an organized people can do anything for themselves in the society of today. There is no reason to doubt that organization is just as important to agriculture as it has proved to labor.

To an organized people, various lines of action are open. It is not my purpose here to discuss these. Organization must come first.

The year ahead may well prove critical for Canadian agriculture. Farm costs are soaring, farm income rather on the decline. Unless this trend can be halted the results will be disastrous all round. We have a job on our hands and there is no time to lose.

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## Personal Staff

(Continued from page 1)

of the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act. What was accomplished by REA in a short 15 years is a fascinating saga of public enterprise and initiative.

What a boon the depression turned out to be for American farmers! It should be emphasized that REA was established as one element in a general program of relief of unemployment. It was not until a year later that it was given status as an agency whose primary purpose was promotion of rural electrification. Roosevelt himself and a few leaders like Senator George W. Norris for many years had been hammering away at the need for rural electrification as a public project, but the influence of the power monopolies was too strong to permit the direct accomplishment of their purpose. Relief provided the opening! However, by the end of 1935 the President, Senator Norris, the Administrator of REA and others who for the preceding quarter of a century had been arguing the need and practicability of more extensive rural electrification, were highly dissatisfied with the results achieved by REA as a relief agency. Senator Norris brought the thing to a head by writing to the Administrator asking for information as to "what would be involved in the proper extension of rural lines, so that a much larger percentage of rural homes may be electrified, and how soon can this be brought about."

The reply of the Administrator

is worthy of close attention by all who are interested in the question of rural electrification. "The experience of Rural Electrification Administration," he wrote "indicates that this limitation on the extension of electric service in rural areas has been due to prohibitive costs of line construction, to excessive demands for cash contributions from farmers to pay for the lines which would serve them, to high rates which discourage the abundant use of current, and to the traditional policy of the private utilities of extending their monopolistic franchises as wide as possible, while extending their actual service only to those areas which are most profitable." (Like a C.C.F. speech in the Alberta legislature!) He went on to recommend a positive program of "planning for construction on an area basis so as to effect the economies of mass construction." "Only by planning a fairly complete coverage of an area without leaving too many gaps and unserved patches," he said, "can the essential economies be realized."

The publication of these letters created a stir. The farm organiza-

tions became active in support of an expanded scheme. Senator Norris introduced a Bill in the Senate, Congressman Rayburn in the House. The power interests stormed and lobbied and—I'd better be careful. The greater the truth the greater the libel! but the Norris-Rayburn bill passed—by one vote!—and became the Rural Electrification Act of 1936. The rest of the story is a fascinating one of enterprise and drive. REA engineers revolutionized the design of rural lines, cut costs enormously, co-operatives were organized. The poles marched across the countryside and into the farm yards. Tied into the scheme were the great national projects like that of the Tennessee Valley, Boulder Dam on the Colorado, Grand Coulee, Shasta, Roosevelt and scores of smaller works. I don't think it would be an exaggeration to say that no fourteen years in history has seen a greater social and economic accomplishment than that of the Rural Electrification Administration. It is a magnificently striking example of what can be done by imaginative public enterprise.

## 10 Percent

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profits of corporations have increased over 50% since 1946.

Subsidies to Gold Mines

Even if the \$65 million distributed to Western farmers on the five-year pool were a direct subsidy, rather than a payment due them, it would not be an unfair charge on the Canadian taxpayer, when it is remembered that the wheat price during war years was a very modest one. In refuting this subsidy charge, H. H. Hannam, president of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, points out the many subsidies received by industry, particularly emphasizing the \$13 1/2 million paid to gold mining companies in the last three years.

Decrease Cattle Herds

Beef producers will agree that the price of their product to the consumer is high at present. But until the embargo was lifted on the cattle shipment to the U.S., prices were not out of line with other commodities. The decrease in cattle population since 1945 can be attributed to a large extent to the fact that many farmers and ranchers reduced their herds, or liquidated completely, because they feared a drop in prices. Now, with breeding stock scarce and high in price, it is difficult to again increase herds.

The results of a recent study by the U.S. Department of Agriculture reveal that the farmer in most cases receives a very small share of the consumer's dollar. For example, he obtains 2.6 cents for the wheat used in a 16c loaf of bread. A suit selling for \$50 would still cost \$40.50 if the farmer gave away the wool and cotton it contained. The beans in a can of pork and beans net the producer only two cents.

Similar figures could doubtless be obtained for Canadian products, and they would indicate that there is definitely too much spread between the prices

the primary produce receives and that obtained for the finished product. It is here that the consumer should attempt to get action, rather than complain of high profits made by farmers.

With some commodities such as milk, the spread might be excessive, even if no profit were received by processors and distributors, because of wasteful and inefficient methods. This might be remedied by some process of dehydration that would preserve milk without refrigeration, and still retain its original properties. Such a method would eliminate the necessity of daily milk deliveries. Similar methods might also be used for handling fruit and vegetables. There is a great need of more research and investigation work by private companies and government institutions with problems of this nature.

Whether we have peace or war, periods of inflation or depression, the feeding of the world's population must go on. The majority of farmers in the past have always indicated a desire to produce at a maximum, regardless of the returns they may receive for their efforts. The removal of price uncertainties in the agricultural industry would result in more long-term planning, and consequently improved methods of production. In this, in combating inflation, and in many other ways, the consumer should unite with the producer if anything is to be accomplished.

## MacDonald To Go To Copenhagen Congress

OTTAWA (CPA).—The executive committee of the Co-operative Union of Canada, meeting here, named A. B. MacDonald, C.U.C. National Secretary, as the organization's official delegate to the 18th Congress of the International Co-operative Alliance. The Congress will be held in Copenhagen on September 24-27.

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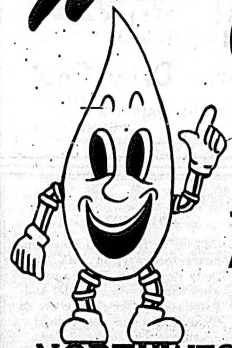
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